

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title and before the first paragraph of the specification, please insert the following new heading:

BACKGROUND

Page 1, please change the heading on line 3 to read as follows:

1. Technical Field

Page 1, please delete the heading on line 10 in its entirety and insert therefore the following new heading:

2. Related Art

Page 1, please delete the heading on line 35 in its entirety and insert therefore the following new heading:

SUMMARY

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The present ~~invention~~ exemplary embodiment aims to address the above problems by providing a method and system for ~~analysing~~ analyzing a set of rules so as to detect potential conflicts between the operational rules. This is achieved in the ~~invention~~ exemplary embodiment by adding knowledge about the interrelationships between system functions, such that the method and system provided by the ~~invention~~ may then automatically detect and indicate potential conflicts to a user. Additionally, ~~the invention also relates to a system~~ may be arranged to operate in accordance with a rule set generated by the above, and a method of operating a system using such a rule set.

Please delete the heading on page 5 line 15 in its entirety and insert therefore the following new heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please insert the following new heading on page 6 line 21:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The above is achieved by the embodiment of the invention capturing information about the semantic relationship between functions. The system captures the relationships inherent between the functions in the mathematical model of a partially ordered set (poset). Notice that these relationships, although they reside in the semantics, are not part of the functionality provided by current systems. Nor do current systems have any awareness of these relationships, they exist only in the minds of the programmers. ~~The invention~~ This embodiment captures this knowledge and brings it into the system via this mathematical model of the poset.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

Moreover, the exemplary embodiment of the invention is also intended to cover a system and its associated method of operation which operates in accordance with a set of system operating rules which have had their conflicts resolved in accordance with the principles of the invention. Here the resolved rule set may be in either an expanded or canonical form.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 32 with the following amended paragraph:

Having described an overview of an exemplary embodiment the invention, a full description of an embodiment thereof will now be described.

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Before the listing of the claims, at the top of page 28 of the specification, please delete the word "CLAIMS" and insert therefore --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--